

Milwaukee County

Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, 4th District Supervisor John F. Weishan, Jr., 16th District

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MORE INFORMATION NEEDED ON NO-BID CONTRACT

Supervisors question contract awarded to Graef-USA, Inc.

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisors Marina Dimitrijevic and John F. Weishan, Jr., released the following joint statement regarding the inspections of the O'Donnell Parking garage and other County facilities:

"The lack of information available to us, as County Supervisors, about the O'Donnell Park parking garage tragedy and the other building inspections being performed is simply astonishing. We're not alone. A number of our colleagues have not yet learned how this contract was awarded or the scope of the work being performed. As policymakers providing legislative oversight, we need this information. We are requesting that a complete and detailed report be presented to the Board. So far, the news media has received more information than we have as elected officials.

"We are also concerned that Graef-USA Inc, a firm that has contributed to County Executive Scott Walker's gubernatorial campaign, was awarded a no bid contract. Even though a lot of the work is being subcontracted, the fact remains that County dollars are being funneled through Graef, which was one of the contractors involved in building the O'Donnell Parking garage in the first place. How can we expect them to provide unbiased reports in light of that fact?

"Finally, we are disappointed that the items relating to O'Donnell Park and other county buildings were pulled from the Transportation, Public Works & Transit Committee meeting this morning. We are demanding that Supervisors hear these items and have an opportunity to ask questions in a public format."